



Blue Spirit Region Newsletter

4th Quarter 2008

Inside this issue:

Looking For Angels	2
Message from the KFSD President	3
Message from the KFSD Blue Spirit Region Presi-	3
KFSD Dances	4
Les' Début	4
Travel Notes	5
Regional Club Dance Schedule and Info	6-8

Are You A Good Square Dance Angel?

This time of year we are all starting (hopefully) our new square dance class. An integral part of these classes are the assistance and help from our members acting as Square Dance Angels. These are a few thoughts harvested from several web sites on what it is to be a "Square Dance Angel." There are numerous articles on this subject, but they basically have one common thread and that is a desire to help Square Dancers become good Angels. I hope this article stirs your imagination and motivates you to become the very best Angel you can be. Thank you for taking the time to read this.

Square Dance Angels are wonderful people who have the desire to help new dancers. They give of their time to attend classes each week to make sure new dancers have the best possible learning experience. A good Angel is an asset to any Caller teaching a beginning square dance class! A Caller does not rely on the Angel to "TEACH", rather, the Caller relies on the Angel to be a good listener and to execute the Square Dance commands correctly. Therefore, the Angel must know the "Basic" definitions of all the calls for the type class that is being taught. An Angel is also a "Student of Modern Western Square Dancing." Angels strive to be the best that they can be so they will set a good example for the new dancers. Angels are active participants in their club as well as going out and dancing at other clubs. One thing I truly believe is, "You Learn The Basics of Square Dancing in Class, You Become a Polished Dancer by Going to Club Dances, Weekend Festivals, State and National Conventions and Workshops." The more you dance, the better your skills will become. Here is a list of Do's to be an effective Angel:

Be On Time: You should be at class before the students arrive. If you are late all the time, class members will arrive late because they might think it's not important. Arriving late eliminates one tip (sometimes 2).

Form Squares: When the Caller puts the music on you know it's time to dance so start forming a square. Ask a new student to be your partner and find a square. By immediately "Squaring Up" you show the new dancers that it's important to "Square Up" when you hear the music. Make sure you dance with all the students and especially the new dancers that might be having some problems.

Allow your caller to teach: DO NOT TALK IN THE SQUARE when the caller is giving instructions. Listening to the caller's instructions requires concentration. No person can listen to two persons talking at the same time. Resist the temptation to explain the caller's comments to others in the square. If you see totally blank looks on all the student's faces in your square, raise your hand and ask to have the last instructions repeated.

Be a Good Listener: If you are "chit chatting" while the Caller is explaining a Square Dance Command, the students pick up on this and will do the same thing, which of course means the Caller will have to spend more time talking.

Only dance what is taught: Most of the flourishes that we love to do (DoSaDo a la Highland Flight, Promenade ending twirl, Twirl while Promenading, etc.) are not appropriate during basic lessons. The basic square dance calls are enough to overwhelm most new students. It is more important that the students learn the calls with the standard Callerlab styling, that is, without the flourishes we like so much. The caller will determine when in the course of the class to introduce our clubs most frequently used flourishes.

Are You A Good Square Dance Angel? (Cont.)

Don't Push: If a class member is unsure of a call, there is a great temptation to try and help by pushing someone into position. Don't do this, really. Don't push! Yes, I know it can be hard to resist, but it's rude, the class members won't really learn anything that way, and the instructor will have a harder time seeing who's having trouble with what. Do your best to be in the right position yourself, hold out your hand expectantly, or exert *gentle* hand pressure to get people moving in the correct direction. It is better to let your square break down than to start shoving people around to fix it.

Be Gentle: Try to avoid the grip of death. A gentle handhold is all that's required. Don't hold onto someone's hand if they're trying to get away, even if you're sure that they're not supposed to. You can hurt someone by holding on too hard.

Dance with Confidence: Don't slouch. Believe it or not, you will get more fatigued dancing improperly. Keep your head up, shoulders back, bend your knees slightly and stay in rhythm with the music. The pace of most Square Dance Music is between 128 to 132 BPM (Beats per Minute), that means every beat requires a step.

Definitions: Know the basic definitions of the Calls. If you don't do the Calls properly, the students won't do them either. Knowing the basic definitions of the calls allows the Callers to be more flexible with their choreography.

Smile: Your smile says a lot. If you smile, the students will smile.

When you aren't dancing: If you are not needed in a square, be quiet. If the caller begins a tip, end your conversation. If you just have to continue your conversation because you are about to solve all of the world's problems, go to another room away from the squares (they don't want to hear you – they're here to learn square dancing and you will be affecting their ability to listen).

Eye Contact: This is truly one of the best ways to help new dancers gain confidence.

Name Badge: Don't forget your name badge.

Support Your Club: Go to your club dances and support visitations your club organizes. If you don't support the club how can we expect the students to do it? Lead by example.

Lend a Hand: If you're asked to help set up the hall, take care of refreshments, do it cheerfully

Positive Mental Attitude: You know the old saying you draw more bees with honey than vinegar? It's true in everything we do and say. Are we human and do we make mistakes? Sure we do. The United States Army has a new slogan called "An Army of One." At first I didn't like it but looking at that slogan I get it now. It all starts with one person, an individual making a "Choice" to join the Army. All these individuals making the "Choice" to join the Army makes the Army what it is, a cohesive unit. Each of us has made a choice to join the Square Dance Activity. By keeping a **Positive Mental Attitude** we help the new dancers make the choice as well.

Recruit: Classes and clubs survive because of their recruiting efforts. Recruiting doesn't stop the first night of class and it doesn't stop the last night of class it's an on going process. Everyone we have contact with has the potential to be part of the best activity going today. Nothing in the world recruits better than having a **Smile** and a **Positive Mental Attitude**.

All Clubs: Looking For Angels

Now is the traditional time for starting classes of new square dancers around the Bluegrass region. Please check with your club if you can angel for your club's lessons.

If the time of your club's lessons conflicts with your personal schedule, consider serving as an angel for another club. Sherwin Baker is conducting lessons in Russell Springs and has female students dancing both the men's & ladies' parts. If you can help, contact Sherwin at 859-553-2140.

Constitution Squares in Danville needs male angels. They have several female members learning the man's part for the first time. If you can help, contact David Cornwell at 859-734-0177.

Message from the KFSD President



Hello fellow square dancers,

The lazy days of summer are over and we are all getting revived again for a very busy fall schedule. Lessons are starting again and the influx of new students is wonderful. Their energy and excitement is catching. All of us need to

remember that the new students are the life of our clubs, so please, support and encourage them.

The Gold Region is having their first regional dance on November 8th. So everyone, please, go and support them. The Blue Spirit Jubilee last March was a very good beginning to our new Federation but just the beginning and would be nothing if we don't continue to grow and support all of our square dancers.

We are proud to announce that our first State Festival will be in Heritage Hall at Rupp Arena on September 18 & 19, 2009. We are looking for volunteers to

help in many areas. If each square dancer does only one thing we would all benefit and no one would be over-worked. This is a convention that we want everyone to enjoy.

We know there have been several deaths recently in our square dance family. To all of the families who have lost a love one, please know our hearts go out to you. Our thoughts and prayers are with you.

Harry & Virginia Marshall

Phone: 502-803-5719

Email: deerdancer55@yahoo.com

Message from the KFSD Blue Spirit Region President



In an attempt to step into the 21 century, we are going to begin distribution of this newsletter electronically. I realize that many of us really do not like the amount

of spam that fills our Inboxes. I hope that you don't consider this spam. In an effort to reduce the amount of money spent on making photocopies, we are going to start emailing the newsletter. We plan on emailing it to the club presidents and whoever else's email address we can get.

We are still going to make printed copies to take to dances. We just hope that the number of copies we have to make will decrease. The club presidents can forward the newsletter to those mem-

bers with email. The club presidents can make copies to distribute to those non-email members and others that attend their dances.

If you want to be added or removed from the distribution or if you have other comments or suggestions, email us.

George & Margaret Scott

Phone : 859-236-4050

Email: BlueSpirit_Scott@bellsouth.net

What Is A Square Dancer?

- A square dancer is a person who knows his left from his right, but occasionally forgets it.
- A square dancer is someone who has learned to do as he is told (by the caller), but doesn't always do it.
- He is fanatical in his search for a good time, traveling miles in all kinds of weather, going places he would never go otherwise, spending all night on his feet which were killing him at work, and smiling happily all the time.
- A square dancer speaks a language all his own. He knows exactly where to go and how to get there: circle left, circle right, forward, back, circle to a line, bend the line, u-turn back, scoot back, backtrack and run, not to mention walk & dodge.
- If this description fits you, don't worry. It is practically incurable, this disease is not at all harmful, but at times most square dancers have a strong desire to infect others in the community.

KFSD Regional Dance - November 8, 2008

The Gold Rush region is conducting a regional dance at Carpenters Union Hall. Wes Dyer & Mark Patterson will serve as MCs as some of the regions finest callers, cuers & line dance leaders will be available for our dancing pleasure. **EVERYONE NEEDS TO GO AND SUPPORT THIS DANCE!**

Split the Pot—Multiple winners

Square Dance or Western attire appreciated.

Admission: \$5.00

Where:

Carpenters Union Hall
4017 Dixie Highway
Louisville, KY

When:

Saturday, Nov. 8
1:00 pm - 4:00 pm

KFSD State Square Dance Convention - September 18 & 19, 2009

What we need:

Callers, Cuers, Line Dance Leaders, Vendors, Sponsors, Workers, Advertising, Programs, Donations, Ribbons

What can you do to help? Yes, we need you, **all of you**, in order to get a state convention organized and have it be a success. Everyone in your club knows someone or a business who could be a sponsor, vendor or make a donation for our first State Convention.

We plan on promoting square dancing as a healthy form of exercise that can lower blood pressure, help cardiovascular circulation and respiratory function. There is a world of resources we need to tap. You may have ideas we have not thought of. Please contact any officer with your ideas, suggestions, or offers to help.

KFSD Officers

Harry & Virginia Marshall, Pres.
Mary Lou Cottrell, VP
Bob & Debbie Wright, Sec.
Debbie Gadd, Treas.

Blue Spirit Region Officers

George & Margaret Scott, Pres.
Howard & June Daniels, VP
Cecil & Linda Cooper, Sec.
Jill Blair, Treas.

Gold Rush Region Officers

C.D. Glock, Pres.
Beth Nagel, VP
Charlotte Allen, Sec.
Phyllis Tomes, Treas.

KFSD Regional Dance Spring 2009

We are currently searching for a facility to hold a regional dance in late March or early April, 2009. If you know of a facility in the Blue Spirit Region that: is larger than 4000 sq. ft., doesn't have carpeted floor, is handicap accessible, and isn't expensive to rent, let us know. We have several possibilities with some of the criteria but not all.

Please get in touch with George & Margaret Scott

Do you have dance information, club news, advertisements or suggestions.

Please email it to George / Margaret Scott:

BlueSpirit_Scott@bellsouth.net

Caller Début



Sept. 13, 2008 Les Centers made his professional début. Mark Patterson, Les Centers, Glenn Kelly & Wes Dyer are shown holding the 1st dollar of their professional compensation after the presentation by president of the Down Under Squares, Harry Marshall.

Travel Notes: 57th Nat'l Square Dance Convention

Margaret & I haven't been square dancing very long and currently we are in the stage where we will travel a ridiculous distance (to our non-square dancing friends) to dance to a particular caller or at a particular festival. There is a risk of boring you with some of our travels, if you complain about these travel notes – please suggest something else to put in this newsletter.

Last June we went to the 57th National Square Dance Convention in Wichita, Kansas. Scheduled square dancing starts at 10:00 AM and ends at 10:00 PM. The after-parties start at 10:00 PM and are always more square dancing. These after parties last anywhere from 30 min. to 90 min. If you intend to live through the experience of a national convention, you have to learn to pace yourself! We were most interested in square dancing but there is a very large round dance presence there. Clogging is there and some contra dancing is available. The good news is that there are over 200 square dance callers there, the bad news is that they generally are only scheduled for one tip at a time. You have to study the dance schedules to find when and where a particular caller will be if you want to dance to them. If you just want to dance, you can stay in one hall (pick one—mainstream or plus) and dance your feet off. The two main halls were in the convention center and they were huge. The Mainstream Hall was large enough to hold 312 squares. One Plus hall was large enough for 256 squares. Another Plus Hall was in a hotel ballroom but it could only hold 35 squares. In the evening, the Mainstream hall has live music from 7:00 till 10:00 PM.

Exhibitions by various dance groups are a pleasant diversion that allow you to rest. For two days there are at least three hours of exhibitions. There are a number of clogging and square dance exhibitions that almost make you tired watching them dance. The formal presentations of exhibitions were held in a concert theater where you could come sit down and watch and leave at any time. Several of the exhibition groups were scheduled to appear in the Mainstream and Plus halls for a 10/15 minute performance during all days of the convention.

One of the things that separate a dance festival from a national convention is the panels & seminars. There were at least 39 different subjects in the panels & seminars conducted at this year's convention. Ten were conducted by CALLERLAB & ROUNDALAB for the callers & cuers. For the dancers there were "Marketing Square Dancing" and "How to Support the Lesson Class", "Retaining New Dancers", "Insurance" and for the 1st timer "So It Is Your First Convention: Getting Around". Clinics can also be very interesting, however most involve being on your feet and dancing in some fashion. We attended a clinic on Hexagonal Dancing. Instead of 4 couples in a square you have six couples in a hexagon. You use exactly the same calls but, boy, are they executed differently. With three couples as heads, the call "heads right and left through" has a whole new meaning.

At each year's convention a decision is made as to the location of a future national convention. A part of this process is the public bid session. This is a presentation by each city that desires to hold the national convention. The bid session usually presents a core team from the bidding city and they present why their city can hold the convention and should be selected. The bid sessions are strictly timed to 20 minutes. Part of the 20 minutes is a professionally produced audio/video presentation. The selection committee has a 10 minute question and answer session. This year's bid session was for the 2012 convention and was between Spokane, Washington and Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Spokane was selected.

This year there were only 6000 ish dancers that attended. As short a time as we have been dancing it's surprising how many new square dancing friends we have made. What's even more surprising is how many of the friends you run into when both of you are so far from home.

The last night (Saturday) we fell into bed with muscles aching but happy none the less. When we left Wichita on Sunday morning we were heading toward our next adventure - rafting 187 miles down the Colorado River into the Grand Canyon, that's another story for another time.

Remember that in 2010 the 59th National Square Dance Convention will be held at the Kentucky Exposition Center (i.e. fairgrounds) in Louisville June 23 – 26. Make plans in your schedules for this week. The cost is \$40 per person, until Feb. 8, 2009, when the price goes up to \$50. If you register prior to Feb. 7, 2009 you will also be able to attend a free "Kick-Off Dance" on Feb. 7, 2009 that will be called by Wes Dyer & Kenny Jarvis. You won't find it any easier to attend a national convention than in 2010.

Club Dance Schedule and Information - 4th Quarter 2008

Bachelor & Bachelorettes (B&Bs) St. Michael's Episcopal Church 2025 Bellefonte Drive, Lexington, KY		1st Saturday 8:00-10:30 pm	President: Henry Sowers (859) 863-4344
<u>Date</u>	<u>Caller</u>	<u>Cuer / LD Leader</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Oct. 3 & 4, 2008	Jack Pladys & Mark P.	Glenn Kelley	59th Anniversary Dance of B&B International
Oct. 30, 2008	Kevin Robinson		Free Student Halloween Dance
Nov. 1, 2008	Charlie Wheatley	Jan Dawson	
Dec. 6, 2008	Kevin Robinson	Glenn Kelley	Christmas Dance
Dec. 18, 2008	Kevin Robinson		Student Half-way Dance
Constitution Squares Mercer County Elementary School 741 Tapp Road, Harrodsburg, KY		3rd Saturday 8:00-10:30 pm Food served 7:30	President: David & Jean Cornwell (859) 734-0177 dave67corn@yahoo.com
<u>Date</u>	<u>Caller</u>	<u>Cuer / LD Leader</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Oct. 18, 2008	Kevin Robinson	Stan Holman	Be Witched
Nov. 9, 2008	Mark Patterson	Stan Holman	Thanksgiving
Dec. 14, 2008 (Sunday)	Wes Dyer	Stan Holman	Share the Warmth
Do Si Dos Beaumont Presbyterian Church 1070 Lane Allen Road, Lexington, KY		2nd & 4th Friday 8:00-10:30 pm	President: Paul & Linda Rowland (859) 219-1339 eprowland@insightbb.com
<u>Date</u>	<u>Caller</u>	<u>Cuer / LD Leader</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Oct. 10, 2008	Eddie Stamper	Jan Dawson	
Oct. 24, 2008	Ricky Frasure	Jan Dawson	
Nov. 14, 2008	Kenny Jarvis	Jan Dawson	
Nov. 28, 2008	Walt Courtney	Jan Dawson	
Dec. 12, 2008	Mark Patterson	Jan Dawson	
Dec. 26, 2008	cancelled	Jan Dawson	
Down Under Squares Down Under Rexel Electrical Supply Co 120 Wilson Court, Nicholasville, KY		2nd & 4th Saturday 8:00-10:30 pm	President: Harry & Virginia Marshall (502) 803-5719 deerdancer55@yahoo.com
<u>Date</u>	<u>Caller</u>	<u>Cuer / LD Leader</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Oct. 11, 2008	Mark Patterson		High Bridge Park, Wilmore, KY 2:00-4:30 pm
Oct. 25, 2008	Tony Kincaid		Benefit for Tony Kincaid's family
Nov. 22, 2008	Mark Patterson & Wes Dyer		Hat, coat, scarf or glove Dance
Dec. 13, 2008	Mark Patterson		Halfway Dance
Dec. 31, 2008	Mark Patterson & Kevin Robinson		New Year's Eve - Breakfast after
Dudes & Dolls The Old Depot Depot Street, Corbin, KY		3rd Saturday 8:00-10:30 pm	President: Howard & June Daniels (606) 528-6543 htdan@newwavecomm.net
<u>Date</u>	<u>Caller</u>	<u>Cuer / LD Leader</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Oct. 18, 2008	Kevin Lowe		
Nov. 15, 2008	Jack Pladdys		
Nov. 29, 2008	Gary Shoemake		
Dec. 20, 2008	Jerry Biggerstaff		
Weekly Regular Club Dances 7:00-9:00 pm			

Club Dance Schedule and Information - 4th Quarter 2008 (Continued)

Gateway Twirlers Mapleton Elementary School 809 Indian Mound Drive, Mt. Sterling, KY		3rd Saturday 8:00-10:30 pm	President: Rick & Cindy Wilcox (859) 585-0627
<u>Date</u>	<u>Caller</u>	<u>Cuer / LD Leader</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Oct. 18, 2008	Mark Patterson		Anniversary Dance
Nov. 15, 2008	Kevin Robinson		Half Way Dance
Dec. 20, 2008	Tom Davis		Winter Solstice
Hill Country Dancers Hambley Athletic Center 120 Championship Drive, Pikeville, KY		1st Saturday 8:00-11:00 pm	President: James & JoAnn Holbrook (606) 432-2722 jameseholbrook@hotmail.com
<u>Date</u>	<u>Caller</u>	<u>Cuer / LD Leader</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Oct. 4, 2008	Kenny Jarvis		Pot Luck
Nov. 1, 2008	Mark Patterson		Thanksgiving
Dec. 6, 2008	Wes Dyer		Christmas
Lake Cumberland Squares Rocky Hollow Park 142 South Central Avenue, Somerset, KY		1st Saturday 8:00-10:30 pm	President: Jerry Sweet (606) 676-9005 jerrywsweet@hotmail.com
<u>Date</u>	<u>Caller</u>	<u>Cuer / LD Leader</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Oct. 4, 2008	Ricky Frasure		Pajama Party
Nov. 1, 2008	Aaron Morrison		Harvest Dance
Dec. 6, 2008	Terry McGill		Angel Dance
Rhythm Rounds Tates Creek Recreation Center 1400 Gainesway Drive, Lexington, Kentucky		Every Wednesday 8:00-10:00 pm	President: Glenn & Rosalee Kelley (859) 233-9947 gkelleylex@aol.com
<u>Date</u>	<u>Cuers</u>		<u>Remarks</u>
Oct. 1, 8, 22, 29	Glenn & Rosalee Kelley		Lessons 7:00-8:00 pm, Dance 8:00-10:00 pm
Nov. 5, 12, 19	Glenn & Rosalee Kelley		Lessons 7:00-8:00 pm, Dance 8:00-10:00 pm
Dec. 3, 10, 17	Glenn & Rosalee Kelley		Lessons 7:00-8:00 pm, Dance 8:00-10:00 pm
Somer-Sets Rocky Hollow Park 142 South Central Avenue, Somerset, KY		2nd Saturday 8:00-10:30 pm	President: Kim & Tia Murphy (606) 274-5032 kimandtia@earthlink.net
<u>Date</u>	<u>Caller</u>	<u>Cuer / LD Leader</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Oct. 11, 2008	Sherwin Baker		Monster Mash
Nov. 8, 2008	Mark Patterson		Have a Care, Bring a Bear (stuffed animal)
Dec. 13, 2008	Eddie Stamper		Dance with Santa (dangle dance)
Vagabonds Laurel County Court House Community Room 101 South Main Street, London, KY		4th Saturday 7:00-9:30 pm	President: Don & Edeline Harper (606) 864-6309
<u>Date</u>	<u>Caller</u>	<u>Cuer / LD Leader</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Oct. 25 July 26, 2008	Don Harper		
Nov. 29 Aug 23, 2008	Don Harper		
Dec. 27 Sept 27, 2008	Don Harper		

Club Dance Schedule and Information - 4th Quarter 2008 (Continued)

Western Swingers Hazard Fire Training Center 45 Gorman Hollow Road, Hazard, KY		2nd Saturday 8:00-10:30 pm	President: Don & Patty Cook (606) 785-3567
<u>Date</u>	<u>Caller</u>	<u>Cuer / LD Leader</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Oct. 11, 2008	Mark Patterson		
Nov. 8, 2008	Ricky Frasure		
Dec. 13, 2008	Kevin Lowe		

Wheeler Dealers Hunter Presbyterian Church 109 Rosemont Garden, Lexington, KY		1st, 3rd, 5th Friday 8:00-10:30 pm	President: Bob & Wanda Wagner (859) 272-4769 purpleribbon@blueone.net
<u>Date</u>	<u>Caller</u>	<u>Cuer / LD Leader</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
Oct. 3, 2008	Cancelled		Cancelled for B&B's 59th anniversary dance
Oct. 17, 2008	Mark Patterson		
Oct. 31, 2008	Mark Patterson		
Nov. 7, 2008	Kevin Robinson		
Nov. 21, 2008	Mark Patterson		
Dec. 5, 2008	Mark Patterson		
Dec. 19, 2008	Wes Dyer		

Future Specials & Weekend Dance Opportunities

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Callers / Cuers</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Information</u>
Oct. 3 & 4, 2008	59th Anniversary of B&B International	Jack Pladdys & Mark Patterson Glenn Kelley (Rounds)	Oleika Shrine Temple Lexington, KY	(859) 271-3046 (859) 863-4344 (859) 277-9059
Nov. 8, 2008	Gold Rush Round Up	Mark Patterson & Wes Dyer MCs	Carpenters Union Hall 4017 Dixie Highway Louisville, KY	(502) 449-4625 (270) 668-7227
Jan. 2 & 3, 2009	Snowman Shuffle	Mark Patterson & Wes Dyer	Kentucky Leadership Center Jabez, KY	(606) 871-9474 (606) 219 1217
Jan. 23 & 24	Topple McGuffey's 30th Annual Snowball Jamboree	Nick Hartley, Tom Davis, Darrin Henry, Kenny Jarvis, Glenn Kelley	Best Western (formerly Holiday Inn-South), Lexington, KY	(502) 955-8341

